

Werner's Weekly Newsletter

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Upcoming Events:

- January 17 - MLK Holiday/No School
- January 31 and February 1- Teacher Work Days/No School for Students

Teacher Notes:

We will begin mid-year PALS testing January 10th. Please make sure that your child has a good breakfast and a good night's sleep. Scores will be sent home once every student has completed the assessment.

Our classroom is in need of cups (7 oz. are the best), 21 frozen waffles, 1 bag of baby carrots, 21 slices of turkey, and any snack foods that are dinosaur shaped. Thank you!

Language Arts:

The first week back from the holidays is a great time to start learning about winter and the letter "w". The children had a lot of fun making a winter picture with chalk and then writing words to describe winter. We also made a snowflake by cutting pieces from a folded circle. This was a great way to teach the children that all snowflakes are different, because none of them looked alike. We also wrote about our snowflakes. I am so impressed with their writing; they certainly have come a long way with their skills! To develop our reading skills, we read *Winter* and *Let's Make a Snowman*. We were able to practice pointing to the words as we read them, and we are beginning to recognize sight words. Please practice pointing to the words when reading together with your children! Also, take some time to go back and identify words in the text (some sight words to look for include the following: *the, me, my, to, is, see, do, it, in, for* - just to name a few).

Math:

This week, we discussed symmetry and showed symmetry with snowflakes by matching two snowflake halves. The children did a fantastic job with this! To practice sorting, we sorted hats according to their various attributes. We are becoming awesome sorters. For extra practice with our ARL concepts, we used animals from Jan Brett's book, *The Mitten*. The children needed to place an animal from the story *under, in, on, above, below* etc. the mitten. With the mitten activity, I casually introduced addition and subtraction; I have been using the terminology preparing them for what is coming in math. A good way to help assure readiness for upcoming math concepts (like addition and subtraction) is to practice writing numbers correctly.

Other Activities:

In center time, we practiced cursive writing in snow (actually shaving cream), made a snowflake using a computer program, and dressed snowmen with a magnetic kit.

Special Reminders:

- Please send all money in the Ziploc baggie in your child's folder with a note telling us what the money is for.
- Please notify us of any changes to your child's dismissal procedure immediately with a handwritten note or a phone call.
- Please return your child's folder daily!

Homework:

Please choose a skill to practice with your child nightly. For example, practice recognizing letters by sight and sound. If your child already knows all of their letters and letter sounds, then step it up a notch and spell 3-letter words together (orally or with pencil and paper).

Next Week:

We will continue learning about the letter "w" and do so some fun activities to learn about weather.

*"You only have to
read on the days
you eat!"*

*Please contact me with any
questions and concerns:
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